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THE SUN, New York City. PARIS-Klosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and

publication wish to have rejected a trut purpose must in all cases send stamps for that purpose on wish to have rejected articles returned, the

The Cuban Loan and the Plate Amendment.

The Cuban loan goes begging, and financiers show no disposition to handle it on the terms proposed by the Cuban Congress. That this would be its fate was quite plain to all careful observers and should have been equally so to those who drew the bill. The basis of the security offered is unstable, if not unconstitutional. The Cuban officials appear to have awakened to this fact, and it is admitted that a change must be made is the provisions of the bill.

It is quite time that the matter should find adjustment and determination. Deferred hope on the part of those who expect direct benefit from the distribution of the proceeds of the loan has resulted in no small degree of discontent and disaffection. The imposition of taxes to provide for the loan, unattended by the financial relief which the loan, if placed, would afford, has led to complaint and protest. Under the pressure which has been brought to bear. President PALMA has issued a decree modifying the conditions of the tax bill.

It is officially stated that, because of the insistence of possible lenders, the Government will recommend that the customs receipts be given as the primary security for the loan. It is exceedingly doubtful if this is possible. Article II. of the Platt Amendment declares that Cuba shall contract no public debt which cannot be duly provided for out of "the ordinary revenues of the island of Cuba, after defraying the current expenses of the Government."

The customs revenues now constitute nearly 95 per cent. of the total income of the island and stand as the only fully assured basis for the payment of "current expenses." It is difficult to see just how this source of revenue can be definitely hypothecated as a security for the loan without an infraction of the provisions of that article.

The Cuban Congress assembles for its fall session on Nov. 2. Its first and most important business should be the consideration of the loan question. It is useless to say that the money is unobtainable because of the condition of the money market. Money is available for loans upon such security as Cuba can give, and it is by no means certain that the pledge of her customs revenues is imperative or even necessary. It is very much to Cuba's interest that the loan be made, and the island is amply able to carry the proposed amount. But the Cubans must disabuse their minds of any idea they may have that finanthat loan upon the basis of an uncertain security. Their experience thus far should have made that evident.

The people of Cuba look to their Government to effect the loan, and it is for their Congress to provide a basis which will be considered in the money market.

Local Option Close to New York.

At the election next Tuesday the liquor question will be an issue in certain towns of Westchester county lying not far from the northern boundary of the city of New York. These towns are Harrison. Yorktown, White Plains, Bedford and Pelham.

Under the Liquor Tax law of this State, the so called Raines law, the privilege of "local option to determine whether liquors shall be sold under the provision of this act" is extended to towns and not to cities, "provided the electors of the town to the number of ten per centum of the votes cast at the next preceding general election shall request such submission by written petition" acknowledged before a notary. The "Prohibitory Union" of Westchester county has taken pains to satisfy this prerequisite to local option in the towns named.

At present, three only of nineteen towns in Westchester county are no license, four have voted for hotel license and twelve for full license. In most of the towns no vote on license has been taken since 1896.

The local option questions to be submitted to the towns are required by the law to be on a "separate ballot," and they are these:

" 1. Shall any corporation, association, copartnership or person be authorized to traffic in liquors under the provisions of subdivision 1 of Section 11 of the Liquor Tax law, namely, by selling liquor to be drunk on the premises where sold?

" 2. Shall any corporation, association, copart nership or person be authorized to traffic in liquors under the provisions of subdivision 2 of Section 11 of the Liquor Tax law, namely, by selling liquor not to be drunk on the premises where sold?

3. Shall any corporation, association, copart nership or person be authorized to traffic in liquors under the provisions of subdivision 3 of Section 1 of the Liquor Tax law, namely, by selling fiquor as

pharmaeist on a physician's prescription? "4. Shall any corporation, association, copart nership or person be authorized to traffic in ilquors under subdivision 1 of Section 11 of the Liquor Tax law, but only in connection with the business of keeping a hotel, if the majority of the votes cast on

the first question submitted are in the negative? To these questions affirmative or negative answers are to be marked on the

ballot. A circular appeal issued by the Westchester Prohibitionists is not hopeful. "Apathy prevails," it says, "and the 'trade' and its abettors, through manifold agencies" have distributed "statements as to the beneficent provisions of license legislation." "Because of this state of affairs," proceeds the circular, "the no license vote in these towns may

not be stupendously large," though it perience, to whom the State gave a

expresses what seems to be a rather forlorn hope that in one or two of them no license will prevail.

Of the 932 towns in the State, 284 are now no license, 304 partial license and 344 full license. No-license campaigns are rare, because of the difficulties in getting the requisite petition, the Prohibitionists allege. The statute provides that the decision of a town on the subject shall not be changed within two years.

Mayor Low suggested, a few evenings since, that he is prepared to favor the extension of local option to New York. Governor MORTON, in the memorandum with which he accompanied his signature of the original Raines bill, in 1896, looked forward to the possibility of the growth of such a sentiment. "It may be desirable," he said, "to extend the local option feature of the law to cities, either as a whole or by wards," and he added that "if the people of any city should desire to vote upon this question the Legislature will, doubtless, accord it that right." Governor MORTON even looked forward to the coming of a public sentiment which "may soon warrant a general amendment to the bill providing for local option in all cities, " since, "on principle, there seems to be no reason why local option should not be applied to cities as well as to rural communities."

So far as we can discover from the Prohibitionist circular, interest in the license question is not great in these Westchester towns, outside of the ranks of the Prohibitionists themselves: but if local option was extended to New York, how flerce would the agitation be!

How Will the Tide Run on the Third of November?

In the city of New York but a single issue will be presented next Tuesday to the voter, the issue, namely, of good versus bad municipal government. In many other parts of the Union, however, party lines are sharply drawn, and the outcome of the elections will indicate the drift of public sentiment. So far, indeed, as Iowa and Mississippi

are concerned, the result is open to no doubt. In the former State Governor Albert D. Cummins is certain to be reelected, and in the latter Mr. JAMES K. VARDAMAN, having carried the Democratic primaries, will be chosen Governor. We also take for granted that in Massachusetts Governor JOHN L. BATES will be reelected, although the friends of his Democratic opponent, Mr. WILLIAM A. GASTON, have put of late a good deal of energy into their canvass, and profess to be able to cut down materially the Republican plurality, which, last year, was about 37,000. It should be noted that in this State the Republican plurality has steadily declined since 1896. In that year Mr. MCKINLEY'S plurality was, in round numbers, 173,000, but it shrank in 1900 to 71,000. Should Governor BATES receive considerably fewer votes this year than he did last, when his plurality was only about half that of Mr. McKinley's in 1900, these would be some ground for the belief that the tide has turned, and that, with a candidate at once conservative and popular, the Democrats would have a chance of carrying even the old Bay State in 1904. The fact should be kept in view that in Massachusetts there

from the Democratic party. In Rhode Island, also, there are four nominees for the Governorship, the Prohibitionists and Socialists having put forward candidates. As the Legislature to be elected this year will fill the seat in the United States Senate now occupied by Mr. ALDRICH, the Republicans are deeply concerned in the contest, and may be able to prevent the reelection of Governor Lucrus F. C. GARVIN, who, last year, obtained a plurality of about 7,000.

two are expected to draw votes mainly

In Ohio, Mayor Tom L. Johnson, the Democratic candidate for the Governorship, does not even profess to expect to defeat Mr. MYRON T. HERRICK, his Republican opponent. In Ohio, unlike New York and Massachusetts, the Republican plurality has increased biennially since 1896, when the State gave Mr. McKINLEY 51,549 more votes than it gave Mr. BRYAN. In 1898 the Republican plurality was 61,139; in 1900 it was 69,036, and in 1902 it rose to 90,465. In view of such a record, Mr. Johnson is undoubtedly right in regarding his attainment of the Governorship as hopeless, and if he has prosecuted his canvass with remarkable energy, it has been with an eye to controlling the Legislature which will elect Senator HANNA'S successor. Mr. JOHN H. CLARKE, who was nominated for Senator by the Democratic State convention, has been a stalwart Gold Democrat, and it will be interesting to observe whether he succeeds in polling the whole of the Bryanite vote. If he does the consolidation of the Democratic party under a Gold Democratic leader will have proved to be practicable.

The outcome of the contest in Maryland will be watched with anxiety by the friends of Senator GORMAN, for, should the Democrats fail to elect their candidate for Governor and to secure control of the Legislature that chooses a successor to Senator McComas, Mr. GORMAN'S influence over the Demoeratic minority in the United States Senate and in the Democratic national convention will be sensibly weakened. It seems to be generally acknowledged that the new election law, which has provided a complicated ballot, will have the intended effect of diminishing the negro vote, but, on the other hand, the Republicans have made of late years such considerable gains through white emigration to the western part of the State that they count upon reaching the city of Baltimore with a plurality of about 2,000. Whether the Democrats of the city, who preponderate over the avowed Republicans, can overcome the England would be willing to hoist its small plurality named depends upon the question whether they can gain about a third of the independent vote, which holds the balance of power. If the Republicans should carry Maryland this year Mr. ROOSEVELT will, of course, expect to repeat his predecessor's ex-

Whether Kentucky can, like Maryland, be described as a doubtful State, is strenuously denied by the local Democratic leader. It is true that in 1896 Mr. McKinley carried Kentucky by the very small plurality of 281, and secured 12 of the 13 Presidential electors. Four years later, however, Kentucky gave Mr. BRYAN a plurality of almost 8,000, and although Governor J. C. W. BECK-HAM's plurality was only about 3,500, the Democrats seem confident of their ability to do better for him this year.

On the whole, there is ample ground, even outside the city of New York, for the interest with which both political parties will scan the election returns which we shall publish on the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 4.

Bourke Cockran, the Altruist.

In the heat and hurry of the political campaign the Hon. WILLIAM TRAVERS JEROME has expressed some impressions of our altruistic and philanthropic fellow citizen the Hon. WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN which have pained that noble heart. To penetrate the psychology of so rich and various a nature must be the work of patient and reverent study; and there is something temerarious in Mr. JEROME's hasty sketch. Fortunately, Mr. COCKRAN has been before the public for some years. The grand outlines, the peaks and promontories and shady valleys of his character, are tolerably well mapped out; and it is not in Mr. JEROME'S power, nor even in Mr. Cock-RAN'S, could he have such a desire, to mislead the public as to the general configuration of that continent of mind.

Inevitably, Mr. JEROME has misunderstood the ABISTIDES of Manhattan, and that misunderstanding has itself been misunderstood by the subject of the misunderstanding. Referring to an assertion said to have been made by the District Attorney, the Great Public Character savs:

" If that means anything from such a mouth as his, it means that, as District Attorney, JEROME has become acquainted with some fact which if he wished he could make public, and which would make me blush."

Much as we deplore Mr. JEROME'S reading of that sincere temperament, we find almost as deplorable Mr. Cockran's erroneous theory of his critic's theory. Mr. JEROME, it ought to be superfluous to say, has no expectation or hope of bringing a blush to that cheek. That would be to paint the lily. While far from being an opportunist, Mr. JEROMB is not absolutely impracticable.

Mr. JEROME'S unfortunate misconception of Mr. Cockran's character is not to be regretted, perhaps, since it has given the latter statesman an opportunity to deny a charge made lightly against him by the envious and the wicked. "I have never accepted a cent." he cries with the fervor of a just indignation, "not even for my expenses, for my talents." This is thoroughly in line with all his career. He lives, he talks for the good that he can do. Who, for example, pursues trusts with more insistence? Mr. Cockran feels it to be his duty to break into trusts. Anything that he can collect out of them is so much levied upon the enemy, so much recovwill be Prohibitionist, Socialist and ered to the people. No impartial man Socialist Labor candidates for the Gov- can study the glorious record of Mr. ernorship, and that, of these, the latter | COCKRAN in connection with trusts with out venerating talents never hidden under a napkin, but always put to fruitful use.

The difficulty with Mr. JEROME, as well as with many other critics of this supreme altruist, is that they cannot appreciate his simplicity in complexity, his solidity in fluidity, his uniformity in diversity. Only the astronomers and mathematicians are able to calculate such an orbit, and even they cannot predict his phases. Yet that old bore Po-LONIUS has explained beforehand all these variations and predicted this illustrious man, self-centred in majestic unity in spite of his Protean lightning

changes and vagrancies of opinion: "This above all: to thine own self he true."

This is the foundation of his enlightened altruism. This is the nub and heart of a life which cynics are incapable of grasping. This and that political committee may murmur against the sublime apostle of self-sacrifice, and accuse him of being hired. So envy barks at virtue. So earlier oracles were accused of being

Not less by his Roman austerity of integrity than by his solid logic and his severity of argument, Mr. Cockran is an example to other orators and tribunes of the people. In spite of the temptations to give way to tropical speech, he answers the District Attorney and the fusionists dispassionately. The young student of oratory who wishes to master the art of severity without vituperation can do no better than to commit to memory these model arguments of Mr

COCKRAN'S: " Despicable thing."

"This obscene creature." " Blackness of his conscience

" Termagant in frousers." " Professional blackguard.

Sexless degenerates." This is godlike calm, the pure ether pure intellect.

England and the Congo Free State. The British Foreign Office has recently despatched to England's representatives at the courts of the various nations which were concerned in the Berlin Conference a communication in reference to the alleged misdoings of the Belgians in the Congo Free State. The

terms of the communication are so vigor-

ously expressed that it is evident that

the British Government intends to sup-

port the issue raised by the debate in the

House of Commons last May. Just how far England is prepared to go in the matter can be no more than a subject of conjecture at present. That own banner, in place of the Belgian flag, over that vast African area, and to assume responsibility for the development of the Congo country, is hardly open to doubt. Such a step would mean much to England's plans throughout the

entire African continent. Yet it may

be doubted if she would go quite so far

In any British action arising from this situation the United States has no direct concern. America was not a participant in the Berlin Conference. If we have any trade at all with the Congo, it is so insignificant in its amount that no separate record is made of it. The only American issue which appears in the matter stands in connection with the work of missionaries in that region. A statement of complaint from that source has been submitted to the State Department in Washington, and a personal presentation of the matter to the Washington authorities will be made by Dr. MORRISON as a representative of the missionary associations. Dr. Morrison has also presented his case to the British Government, and has made an appeal to the King of Belgium, the titular head of the Congo Free State.

The Angler and the "Suckers."

Everybody knows that the Hon. Tom JOHNSON got rich by means of franchises, and is now hot to have franchises taxed that are owned by other persons. The exact means by which he acquired his own franchises was disclosed by him, with his habitual frankness, in a speech made at Tiffin, Ohio, Sept. 27, 1902:

" I will tell you how I made my money. I made through franchises. I never got a franchise of my own in my life. I went around buying them from suckers who had gotten them from the people, and didn't know what they were really worth That is the way I got my money."

The unearned increment of some of these franchises is calculated by the Commercial Tribune of Cincinnati thus:

Nassau Electric Ry. Co...... \$100,000 \$1,000,000 The Johnson Company 500,000 1,000,000 Johnstown St. Ry. Co. 100,000 100,000 Johnstown and Stony Creek St. Ry. Co.... Detroit St. Ry. Co. 50,000 Allentown and Lehigh Valley Traction Co.... 30,000 Buffalo Traction Co..... 200,000 \$850,000

Tom doesn't pay taxes on these three millions. He even resorts to Government by injunction to avoid paying taxes on them. He got them cheap from suckers," and he is not "sucker" enough to pay taxes on them.

Strong with this great success in catchng financial "suckers," he is now fishing intently for political "suckers."

"Suckers" must be getting a little shy in Ohio by this time.

The Hon. Lucius N. LITTAUER was reported yesterday as imploring the President to come to his assistance in the matter of a "vindication." He wants Mr. Roose-VELT to inquire "if there is not some way still open" to get around Attorney-General KNOX's cruel decision that the statute of limitations deprives him, Mr. LITTAUER, of the high satisfaction of being prosecuted by the United States Government.

Mr. LITTAUER feels keenly the blow which the brutal KNOX has delivered upon the most sensitive spot of his personal honor. He is reported as saying: "My only desire in this matter is to have an op-

portunity to vindicate myself completely, so that there shall be no doubt in any one's mind. I have no wish to be shielded by the statute of limita-One course remains open to the Hon

LUCIUS N. LITTAUER. Suppose he should demand the appointment of a committee to investigate the action of the Department of Justice in refusing to waive the statute of limitations for his benefit.

The Chicago Record-Herald endears itself to all lovers of statesmanship and sociology by printing the thoughts of Senator DEPEY on matrimony. We regret that the article is copyrighted. It contains sagacious counsels and precious consolations, which the married and the unmarried will be the happier and better for. In time, perhaps, the copyright will be removed. Distributed as a tract, this testimony and adhortation will work on myriads of hearts. Celibacy and divorce are doomed.

The Steamship of the Future. From Cassier's Magazine.

Taking the steamship Umbria, built in 884, as a good example of the best practice of that time, and the Kaiser Wilhelm II. as the highest type of to-day, we find there has been an increase of about 10.6 feet a year in length and .184 knot an hour in speed. rate of increase, while it will not keep up indefinitely, will be maintained for a certain length of time. All developments have progressed with great bounds for a few years. and then have settled down to a practical This settling down period has not vet arrived in the steamship world, as the ever increasing size and speed of ships will show. Referring again to the Umbria and the Kaiser Wilhelm II., this table is of in

	S. S. Umbria.	S. S. Kaiser Wilhelm 11,	
Ì	Built 1884	1893	
١	Length on load wa-		
	ter line 500 ft.	702 ft.	
	Beam 57 ft.	72 ft.	
	Draught 22.5	29.5	
	Displacement 9,860 tons	26.500 tons	
١	Block coefficient538	.622	
	Admiralty " 263	287	
i	Length + Beam 8.77	9.74	
į	Length Draught. 22.2	28.8	
۱	Steam pressure 110 lbs.	218 lbs.	
۱	Piston speed 840 ft. per m	. 944 ft. per	1
ı	Speed 20 knots	23.5 knots	-
ļ	I. H. P	40,000	
۱	We can now approximate	the size of	

We can now approximate the size of a steamer about on these lines and settle on a 35-foot draught. This is not too much with a 40-foot dredged harbor, and it may go even 40-foot dredged harbor, and it may go even further. With a 35-foot draught, then, a ratio of length to draught of, say, 25, and a ratio of length to beam of 10, and with the same block coefficient as the Kaiser Wilhelm II., we would get 875 feet length of load waterline, 87.5 feet beam, 47.600 tons displacement, and with an Admiralty coefficient of 287 we would need about 72,000 indicated horse-power for a sea speed of 25 knots. This horse-power, the writer believes, will be obtained with turbines, and a ship of this size we shall live to see.

Sam Parks and High Wages

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: You probably err in theing Sam Parks credit for the advance in The real cause was the "boom." The scarcity of labor in the building trades during the urgent de and to complete, in great haste, the hundreds of skyscrapers in the large cities, caused the bidding up of the price of labor. Any price was possible in some cases: I heard of one instance, in upper Fifth avenue, where the workmen were paid exorbitan get their meals at the leading hotel restaurant. No. Mr. Parks was not the father of high wages

he is, however, partly the cause of this year's de-pression. The strikes he has called affected the from and steel trade, the most sensitive nervetn out NEW YORK, Oct. 28.

in the North American Review for November Muhammad Barakatullah shows how the Mace tonian troubles appear in Mohammedan eyes An "Angio American" indicts the British monarchy and the president of Colgate University condema Mr. Cortissoz tells about Augustus S Gaudens, and Vernon Lee about Ruskin. Ther are other articles of interest on subjects of the day. A rather uncommon attraction is a poem by Thomas Hardy, "The Tramp-Woman's Tragedy."

plurality of 32,000 in 1896 and of nearly as a forcible ejectment of the present rulers.

ECHOESOF AN AMAZING CANVASS. all Kings county Democrats, who made him a candidate and elected him. Also, when we recall his loyal participants of the Tammany.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: 'I asked this afternoon an old Irishman, employee of a business friend of mine, for whom he will vote: "Sir, I voted in 1884 for McClellan's father." "Then, of course, you will vote for his son this year?" "Sure." And now the surprise: "Can you tell me, sir, in what party McClellan will go in," asked the old gentle-man mysteriously. "Of course, in Tammany Hall." "You think so?" I had to shut the door not to laugh in the man's face. NEW YORK, Oct. 27.

From the Prohibition Point of View. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Thinking

that you might like to give all sides a fair hearing in THE SUN, I write briefly of this campaign from the Prohibition standpoint. Prohibition platforms have been before the untry for more than thirty years. All intelligent men ought to know what the reason ing in them is, namely, that it is morally wrong o support the candidates of a license politics of the license policy of that party; or, acco ing to an old and correct way of putting it, i makes the voter a partner in the liquor bus sending of a multitude of souls to a drunkard

In the present campaign, as in every other, we may each think that this or that principal candidate or party is better than others; but that is of small importance to any voter com pared to the weighty question of entering into or avoiding the above mentioned partnership. The important thing is the voters attitude toward right and wrong.

In this election no party except the Proabition party claims to be opposed to the sinful policy of authorizing drunkard making by license. Intelligent men know what i neans when Mr. McClellan announces himself in favor of personal liberty, and what i the excise laws to make them more liberal ment of them, and what it meant last winter when Mr. Low and Mr. Jerome both went t Albany to advocate a bill for Sunday opening saloons. I claim, therefore, that the mar who supports any of these candidates, alhough he may be honest and only terribly mistaken in his judgment, really takes an attitude of support of the saloon for seven days of the week, instead of the only rightous attitude of eternal opposition to it. of the principal parties and candidates are oidding for the saloon vote. Both are so bad that it is wicked to support them. I think I have at least made it clear that it is not with out reason that many good men cannot conscientiously vote for any one but John McKee for Mayor this fall, and the Prohibiion candidates at all elections. JULIUS E. PHELPS. JAMAICA, Oct. 27.

Cockran on Municipal Bonds.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SU: Cockran in his speech last night stated that the bond issue of the city is restricted to 10 per cent. of the value of its property. This statement is incorrect. The issue is restricted to 10 per cent. of the assessed value. One of the causes of the decline of bonds during the Low administration is due to the fact that although the assessed value has been increased or corresponding increase in the actual value the city's property. In other words, the city's debt limit has been increased without giving the purchasers of its bonds a corresponding increase in their security

SAMUEL HELLINGER. NEW YORK, Oct. 27.

Mr. Jerome Criticised by a Democrat. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: In the account of the fusion rally in the Fifteenth Assembly district, held last night, as reported in THE SUN this morning, under the caption "Gives the Lie to McClellan," District Attorney Jerome is made to say: "The difficulty of applying criminal law is that you cannot convict a man on the testimony of accomplices alone and all the men under Tammany were accomplices. I couldn't manufacture the evidence myself.

If a jury of intelligent men cannot "convict a man on the testimony of accomplices." if the arise in the House of Representatives on word of the accomplice, unsupported by other the first day of the extraordinary session, testimony, cannot go in courts of justice, and, as a matter of the highest privilege, cannot be admitted for truth, how, then, can the honorable District Attorney, Mr. Jerom expect the reasoning, thinking, intelligent citizens of New York city to lend credence to what he nightly says from the stump? He admits himself, in his very arguments, that the only evidence he has is the testimony of socalled accomplices. If this evidence "cannot go" in law, neither can it be rammed down the throats of a great people by a demagogic, partisan, vituperative, billingsgated, swellheaded, mud-slinging District Attorney "Throw mud and it will stick," but, "not stain:" and to-morrow if some of these very leaders of the Democratic party (Tammany) that he seeks unmercifully to pillory, Cataline style, were to die, he would be among the first if called upon at a public memorial service to assist in the apotheosis of the men he now

declares reprobates and unclean. Enough of this vilification! Let's fight the Mayoralty campaign on clean, clear, cameo cut issues, and not on personal slander and individual libel.

New York has reached her proud position of metropolis of finance, commerce and an enlightened press, not under Citizens' parties. Republican parties, fusionists, &c., but under the government of the Democratic party in her municipal affairs. Therefore, if Tam many has ever been the cesspool of iniquity, the plunderer of the city treasury, the guar dians of corruptness and prostitution, to use a word from the Order of Acorn literature, is it not strange that capital has sought invest ment, great towering structures have been builded, the city improved from one end to the other, and from the Hudson to way be-yond Brooklyn's suburban lines? Do all these things happen where robbery, plunder, disregard for law and order reign and rule with high-handed autocratic power? If they do. then Manhatian is an abnormal freak in municipal government, a rara gvis which could only have grown out of chaos and venality because the press of New York opposed to

Tammany would have it so. Issues and principles should win in this campaign-not unproved assertions; nor should this great Democratic city be blinded to the fact that a fusion victory means a Republican victory for Odell, Platt, Depew and President Roosevelt in 1904. NEW YORK, Oct. 28.

Jerome and Cockran

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN .- Sir: In the municipal campaign of 1901, Mr. Bourke Cockran, the eminent student of the coinage, went about among his acquaintances menting thus upon the speeches of Mr. William Travers Jerome: "Travers is doing very well surprisingly

well for a man of little or no experience in public speaking. But he profits greatly by lack of proper opposition. The effect of his speeches could be utterly neutralized if an experienced man were to be sent out by Tammany Hall to follow him and extinguish He would be the easiest man in the Is Mr. Bourke Cockran of the same mind to-day

NEW YORK, Oct. 29.

The District Attorney to Kings.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In your paper of the 27th, an editorial entitled "The Office of District Attorney in Brooklyn struck me as being a very controversial subject, and impresses me with a desire as a citizen and friend of good government, to express my humble opinion of the seeming

John F. Clarke has undoubtedly been an efficient and conscientious "municipal officer. yet you say the most that can be said of him politically is, that he has been a stanch fol-

Very well, if the Citizens' Union had proffered him its indorsement, or nomination as their candidate, it would be confronting this gentleman with a dilemma, just such as Mr. Grout was put through; and if he accepted the proposition he would earn the contempt of

in the political debate with Mr. Tim Wood me six years ago, when Mr. Woodruff some six years ago, when Mr. wood ruff (if I mistake not) was awarded the decision, it proves conclusively the impracticability of tendering the fusion nomination to Mr. Clarke. So that I cannot see how th nomination of Mr. Ketcham detracts anything from the zeal of the Citizens' Union for able candidates.

T. N. G.

BROOKLYN, Oct. 27.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It gave me a great deal of pleasure to read in this morning's Sun your editorial on "The Office of District Attorney in Brooklyn." In my judgment you have struck the right note.

ording to the local Judges and the local

prought this office to a state of almost abso-He has been complimented by almost every Grand Jury serving during his term, and if such a man is not entitled to a reelection, by the nomination from all parties, I have n

understood the purpose of the fusion move-I have been a Republican all my life, but I hall take great pleasure in casting my vote for John F. Clarke for District Attorney of Kings county on next Tuesday, if I am spared that long; and I trust that your editorial will be the means of awakening many voters to the fact that honesty in a public official de-

erves reward. "More power to ye." FRANE M. PRICE.
NEW YORK, Oct. 27.

Faise Registration.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will you please tell your readers and the good citizens of this city that there has been a false regis-tration from 477 Hudson street, our clergy nouse, and we have strong suspicions that he is one of the many Tammany heelers and thwart honesty and justice.

Isn't this evidence of Tammany's indecency and rascality? The Republicans and Citizens' Union officials and we clergy are on his track and in this case will see to it that he does not put his fraudulent vote in the ballot box. As an independent Democrat I urge all good citizens to "Vote for Low and keep Rev. F. J. KEECH. the grafters out. NEW YORK, Oct. 28.

Mr. McClellan Didn't Take Orders From Mr. Nixon.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: always believed it to be the policy of THE SUN to be fair and not to mislead. Political campaigns and the tenure of office are but short, but the influence of a great newspaper should be practically for all time. I find that in self-respecting newspapers nothing is charged against George B. McClellan's public or private life, except that he has been subelected Mayor Tammany will be in the saddle As an illustration allow me to state a fact, subject to verification by your own files

When Amos Cummings died, it left a vacancy in the Naval Committee of the House of Representatives properly to be filled from the delegation from our great city. Mr. Nixon was at the time the head of Tammany Hall and also president of the shipbuilding trust, now being exploited in the United States courts. He, Nixon, was desirous of having the vacancy filled by the appointment of Perry Belmont, and in a conversation with Mr. McClellan asked him to support Mr. Belmont for the place. Mr. McClellan informed Mr. Nixon that he was using his influence for

Mr. Fitzgerald of Brooklyn.
Shortly afterward Mr. McClellan returned to Washington and found a telegram from Mr. Nixon saying, "I want you to support Perry Belmont for the vacancy on the Naval Committee " to which Mr. McClellan answered In my public duties I take orders from no

The matter got out and he was commended highly for his right sense of duty and inde-pendence of Tammany Hall influences. Can t fairly be said that the man who virtually defied the power of Tammany Hall then, in a matter of little importance to himself or the people, would in the great office of Mayor be controlled by any man or body of men, save the public and his own conscience? Being faithful in one thing he will be faithful in many things; I think the publication of this NEW YORK, Oct. 29.

Interest in the Canal Question. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Allow

me to commend your articles on the canal question, to be passed upon at the approaching election. Notwithstanding the apparently good quality of the support of this measure, an expe rience of a good many years with the transportation situation prevents my seeing \$101,-000,000 worth of good in the scheme, even if we possessed assurance of the faithful appli-

cation of the whole of this vast sum. Have the advocates of this "improvement" considered well the fact that for over six months of the year-during the busy winter season-the canal is out of husiness?

Also, when they talk of the canal as a necessity to regulate those arch flends, the railroad monopolists, do they know to what extent the ownership and control of the transportation lines operating through the canal are identical with the ownership and control of the all-rail freight lines?

If this measure is advisable, why is it not also advisable to parallel our modern rapid transit system with lines of horsecars, or omnibuses, to be operated by interests closely associated with those in control of the present

NEW YORK, Oct. 28. Issues. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will the Russian fight the Jap? Will the Turk be good again? Will Menelik and Dowie form

A Dervish syndicate—and when? Most important are these questions In this curious campaign. Who would drag in local issues Must be nutty, cracked, insane Will Colombia try a bluff?

Can Madame Humbert sew a hem Will the English Premier be Devonshire or Brummagem Most important are these questions Waste no time in foolish talk .-What is decency to we'uns Honesty or old New York?

Dowle's Scriptural Blunder. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -Sir: Dowle cannot

be well read in the Scriptures or he would never have made the blunder of calling himself Elijah II. in the Gospel of St. Matthew is this record of the

sayings of Jesus:

When Jesus came into the coast of Cesarea Philip 1, he asked his disciples, saying: "Whom do men say that I, the Son of Man, am!" And they said, "Some say that thou art John the Raptist: some Pilas, and others Jeremias or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, "But whom say ye I am?" And Simon Peter ranswered and said, "Thou are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

As they came down from the mountain (after the vision on the mountain) Jesus charged them, say, in the say in the say. As they came down from the mountain (after the vision on the mountain) Jesus charged them, saying. Tell the vision to no man until the Son of Man be risen from the dead." And his disciples asked him, saying. "Why then say the scribes that Ellas must first come?" And Jesus answered and said unto them. Ellas ruly shall first come and restore all things. But I say unto you that Ellas is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they lasted. Likewise shall also the Son of Man suffer of them." Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Haptist.

Now, it is very evident that if Elijah appeared. or was reincarnated is John the Baptist, that must have been his second appearance on earth, and if he is here again, reincarnated in John Alexander Dowie, Dowie should call himself Elijah III, and not Elijah II if he wishes to be in harmony with

the Seriptures
Of course, the question is beneath serious argument, but for those who take Dowle well to expose a chariatan who has the impudence to robe himself in the mantie of a saintly prophe order to deace an ignorant and guilible lot .

W. J. Gould. tollowers STURGIS, Mich . Oct. 25.

Suggestion to the Communder of the Buzzard. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—SITE Could not Prof. Langley get some good points from Edgar Allen Poe's story of Haus Pinalit New York, Oct 28. N. J. ELIGARDTH.

EX-SLAVE PENSION SCHEME

The Post Office Department Declares It to He a Barefaced Fraud.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20 .- The Postmaster. General to-day issued an order denying the use of the mails to the Ex-Slave Mutual Relief Bounty and Pension Association of Washington and I. H. Dickinson, treasurer; T. Starr Munfree, secretary, and R. E. Gilchrist, financial manager, all of the

city, for using the mails to defraud.

The association was formed during the last session of Congress, shortly the introduction by Senator Hanna, request," of an ex-slave pension bill. inspectors' report on the case says that "Munfree is a colored crook of the worst type." He formerly operated the Southern Supply Company in Nashville, whe then lived, and was arrested for offence. The pension scheme is declared to be one of the most barefaced frauds ever brought to the attention of the Post Office Department. The promoters realized

Army Courts-Martial and Courts of Honor

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In a very sensible editorial in your issue of Oct. 13 your referred to the unnecessary severity of arms editorial in your issue of Oct. 13 you the navy to protect and shield one another Not only is this true upon the part of the former, but there is a remarkable indifference to the fate of the victim of hastily prepared or unjust charges, which are sustained and pressed in all their literalness.

It is a well known fact in natural history that when certain lower animals are wounded their fellows immediately set about to devour them. Whether this is a process of naturto favor the survival of the fittest, or an evidence of inherent cruelty, is a matter of specu It seems to have an analogy when it would be least expected-in a profession where fair play is always looked for, and usu ally found. The findings of recent courts martial bear more than a mere suggestion to this zoopophagus process, and the history of the operations of these, especially when social offences are concerned, is familiar to most old army officers, who have a fund of reminiscences which illustrate the arbitrary. tactless and usually cruel exercise of power especially when the trouble is fomented by woman in the garrison.

During the past few months many brave officers have been arraigned for comparatively petty offences, and others for gross financial irregularities, and even forgery. one case, alleged "neglect of duty" led to the infliction of a sentence on a Lieutenant-Colonel, who was reduced to the foot of his

the infliction of a sentence on a Lieutenant-Colonel, who was reduced to the foot of his lineal rank and condemned to be kept there during the remainder of his active service. It is needless to say that such a merciless and unconstitutional sentence was disapproved by a wise commanding officer.

Another case which suggests itself and illustrates the injustice of summary procedure is that of a young Lieutenant of infantry who was sentenced to dismissal for an alleged "insult to a woman," and whose sentence was subsequently commuted by the President, although a minor and very severe punishment was substituted. Through the publicity given a charge of doubtful importance, and its appearance in the sensational press, which arraigned and convicted the victim even before the President had a chance to act, the young officer has been cruelly misrepresented and will have to live down the vague charges that have not been made public but if they were might impress a large number of people as comparatively trivial.

All this injury is due to the non-existence of some local tribunal where the quarrels of garrison and regimental life might be adjusted, if possible, before the yellow journals could get a chance to ruin the person on trial. In the German army exists what is known as a Court of Honor, which is provided especially for this purpose, so that disputes are settled insults explained, and dirty linen is washed in private: and the offending officer is afforded a chance to apologize, make other reparation, or resign under compulsion. As it is now, a man without pride may take the chance of ventilating his own wrongs, gratifying his revenge and rulning a brother officer when there has been no intentional insult, but perhaps an innocent jest made after dinner, or at a time when there were extenuating circumstances.

New York, Oct. 28. NEW YORK, Oct. 28.

Huxley and Agnosticism. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your editorial f Oct. 24 on "The State and Religion," says, re-

garding Huxley: Mr. Huxley coined the term agnostic in a spirit not creditable to him, for by it he sought to distinguish himself in the English Philistine mind from unfashlonable infidelity, though he knew very well that the two terms mean substantially the same thing, express the same state of mind toward re-ligion and supernaturalism. He was afraid to ap-pear in his true colors and resorted to a disguise of terminology easily penetrated by an educated mind. Huxley, in his essay on agnosticism in his "Science and Christian Tradition," expressly admitted that

infidelity and agnosticism mean substantially the same thing, expressing the same state of mind toward supernaturalism. To say that he was afraid to appear in his own colors and resorted to a disguise of terminology easily penetrated by an educated mind is error None of the priests and Bishops, nor even Mr. Gladstone, in all their controversies with him ever accused him of being afraid to show his colors. The only fear he was ever known to have was to

assert that he knew when he did not know. That is what made him an agnostic.

He adopted, or coined, the word "agnostic" as one expressing more exactly his real belief than any other term hitherto employed. Infidelity has applications other than those relating to theology. Atheism implies a positive knowing that something is not. He was not an "ist" of any kind, and to call himself an agnostic, to distinguish him from the gnostics who knew so much, he thought was quite

very names which you intimate he sought to escape Instead of coining a word in a spirit not credita ble to him his spirit was admirable HENRY WEITS.

they called him rightly who called him by those

The Color of Indian Blood.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In to-day's SUN under the heading "Indian Blood in Their Veins" there is a statement to the effect that the children of one Dabney were not permitted to a tend a white school in Richmond, Va., because their great-grandmother was an Indian. There must be some mistake, surely, for the great Vir gintan, John Randolph of Roanoke, boasted of scent from Pownatan. GILES SHINK NEW YORK, Oct. 28.

The Drinkers of "Miserable." TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: What amusing lunders we do sometimes find in articles written for the newspapers, to be sure. Here Walter Ballard comes along and tells us in his article on American Cocoa Drinkers" that the shells are used for the decoction known as cocoapray? Had he said for a decoction known as "Mis erable" he would have been nearer the mark, for the shells (they are not always burnt, as George O Moule says in his letter in to day's SUN are often put on the market (I have frequently seen them ! Ireland) to make a beverage of that name, and very appropriate name, for more wishy-washy stuff you never drank. But to make cocoa, never!

NEW YORK, Oct. 28. A LOVER OF COCOA. Elasticity of a Brick Chimney

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A firm in the town are at the present time erecting a smokestar 100 feet high. The masons working on the stasay that it sways. This has started quite an argument in our town. Will not some one of THE SUN readers be so kind as to explain this matter for ti benefit of a number of ignorant people in our lage? The question is Does a brick stack 100 high sway so that a mason working on top of could notice it. or doesn't it? NEWFOIL N. J., Oct. 27.

Great Expenditures for Christian Young Men

From the Christian Intelligence Last year over \$4.700,000 was spent for Youn Men's Christian Association buildings through North America, and at the present time there over fifty large buildings in course of erection own 470 buildings, worth \$20,000,000, and an downent amounting to \$2,500,000. On Sunda-Oct 18, three new buildings were dedicated one at Newark, N. J., which cost \$285,000, another Burkalo, N. Y., which cost \$425,000, and \$50,000 furnish and equip; and a third at Harrisburg Pr costing \$92,000.

The Guinea Pig That Went Wrong

At the recent meeting of a Paristan temperance society three guines pigs were inoculated with various forms of siconol and one with nice pure water and then put away till the end of the meeing, when the lecturer brought them out again telumohantly to show the shocking results of alcohol. Most unfortunately, however, the only li guines pig was the testotal one, and the was simply shocking